

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAY 30 2003

Applicant: Gunter Ritter
Serial No.: 10/088,048
Filed: June 4, 2002
Confirmation No.: 6731
Due Date: n/a
Title: WATER TREATMENT AGENT FOR EXTENDING WATER EXCHANGE INTERVALS IN TANK SYSTEMS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV347833481US
Date of Deposit: May 30, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: *[Signature]*
Name: John Ritter

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 9 Reference(s), Copy of International Search Report
- Other: Copy of the specification for US Patent Application No. 10/088,049.
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: *Ronald A. Daignault*
Name: Ronald A. Daignault
Reg. No.: 25,968
R. Daignault:smm





N 10/088,048

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Gunter Ritter	Examiner:	unknown
Serial No.:	10/088,048	Group Art Unit:	1712
Filed:	June 4, 2002	Docket No.:	12742.0050USW0
Title:	WATER TREATMENT AGENT FOR EXTENDING WATER EXCHANGE INTERVALS IN TANK SYSTEMS		

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A 1/8/03
1/10/03

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

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By:
Name: [Signature]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were cited in the International Search Reports mailed on December 13, 2000 and December 15, 2000. Applicant wishes to call the Examiner's attention to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/088,049. A copy of the specification for the application is enclosed.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the International Search Report.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

US 6,477,982 is the English equivalent of DE 296 17 181.

US 6,477,982 is the English equivalent of WO 97/34838.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

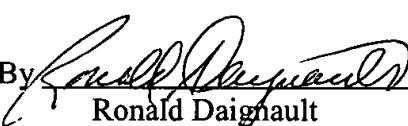
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: May 30, 2003

By 
Ronald Daignault
Reg. No. 25,968

RAD/smm

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FORM 1449^a O I P E INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number:	Application Number:
	12742.0050USWO	10/088,048
	Applicant: Gunter Ritter	
Filing Date: June 4, 2002	Group Art Unit: 1712	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	JP 61-96959	May 1986	JAPAN			Abstract	
	CN 1 115 620	Jan. 1996	CHINA			Abstract	
	DE 296 17 181	Feb. 1997	GERMANY				
	DE 197 04 953	Aug. 1998	GERMANY			Abstract	
	DE 195 33 994	March 1997	GERMANY			Abstract	
	GB 1 415 453	Nov. 1975	GREAT BRITAIN				
	WO 97/34838	Sept. 1997	WO			Abstract	
	WO 96/26905	Sept. 1996	WO			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)



EXAMINER _____ **DATE CONSIDERED** _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.